

Volusia County Genealogical Society

N E W S L E T T E R

SEPTEMBER 2013

37TH YEAR SERVING DAYTONA BEACH GENEALOGY

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Next VCGS Meeting September 19, 2013

**Heather McFaddin of Deland Family Stake will be speaking on
"Immigration and Where to Find Records"**

VOLUSIA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes - June 20, 2013

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Cora May Hartzell, President at 6:05 pm. She requested everyone to stand and Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by David Farris and seconded by Joyce Bailey that the minutes be approved as printed in the newsletter. Motion Carried.

Tom Peake, Treasurer reported the balance in the treasury as of June 20th was \$1,224.69

New Business

Stephanie DiMarries has agreed to be Recording Secretary if it can be arranged for someone to take the minutes till she can get there after work. After discussion with Kitty Consalvo, the current Recording Secretary, we can use a tape recorder and Stephanie will construct the minutes from that.

Program

Kim Dolce, Genealogy Librarian gave a short program on how to use "Fold 3", one of the databases provided by the Library. Some of the features presented on 'Fold 3' are documents relating to the Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI, WWII, and U S Presidents.

There are also Historical Newspapers and Naturalization Records as well as Civil War Photos, UFO documents, State Records and City Directories.

Adjournment

It was moved by Tom Peake and seconded by Susan Norton that the meeting be adjourned. Motion Carried.

A pot-luck social was then enjoyed by all present.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cora May Hartzell

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VCGS Society Calendar

Thursday, September 19, 2013 Board Meeting 5 pm

Thursday, September 19, 2013 6 pm

**Heather McFaddin will present a program on
"Immigration and Where to Find Records"**

Volusia -Flagler Sister Societies

HGS Ormond Library Sept 12, 2013 at 1 pm. Linda Vivian will present "Little Sod house on the Prairie"

GSSVC NSB Library, Sunday, Sept. 8, 2013 at 2 pm "Kathy Stickney on "Researching Your Confederate Ancestor"

GSFC Palm Coast Flagler Library - Wednesday, Sept. 18th at 5:30pm Leslie Vaughan on "Pay It Forward"

\$\$ Report by Treasurer Tom Peake \$\$

\$1224.69



Our 2013 roundup of the 101 Best Websites for genealogy offers rays of research hope with new sites plus perennial favorites sporting new features and records.

Each year, we bring you a list of the 101 best genealogy websites. This year, we're showcasing what's new: Many of our favorite sites boast shiny new records databases, new techniques for accessing data and new ways to share your family tree finds and benefit from others' research. A few recently launched sites have rocketed their way onto our list, too.

What's really new to the genealogy web is a proliferation of apps that let you access many of our 101 best on the go, on smartphones and tablets. We've also pulled together a special roundup of these ancestor-finding apps from our 101 honorees. As usual, we've indicated with a \$ sites that require a subscription or other payment to access the core content. Mostly free sites that offer paid premium services don't carry the \$.

Click the category below to see the best websites from that category:

- **Best US Genealogy Websites**
- **Best Southern US Genealogy Websites**
- **Best Northern US Genealogy Websites**
- **Best Midwest US Genealogy Websites**
- **Best Western US Genealogy Websites**
- **Best Genealogy Websites for Tracing Immigrants**
- **Best Big Genealogy Websites**
- **Best British and Irish Genealogy Websites**
- **Best Continental European Genealogy Websites**
- **Best Genealogy News Websites**
- **Best Online Genealogy Tools and Trees**
- **Best Genealogy Photo and Mapping Websites**

Sample Family History Research Plan by Lisa A. Alzo

Get your genealogy research on track by using this model to create your own plan of attack.

Get your genealogy research on track by using this model to create your own plan of attack. Below is a sample research plan I used for finding information about my paternal great-grandfather, Mihaly Fencsak.

1. Objective: Find the birth, marriage and death dates.

2. Known Facts: Look in home and family sources.

- a. Found a family narrative that names Mihaly Fencsak and his wife, Illa.
- b. Ancestral village is listed as Posa, Slovakia.
- c. Also mentions time spent in Liverpool, England, and Freeland, Pa.
- d. Mihaly was a widower with two children, Anna and John, when he married Illa.
- e. His children with Illa were: Mary, born in Liverpool; Anna, born in Freeland; Elizabeth and Mihaly (Mike) Fenchak, both born in Slovakia.
- f. Clues: Mihaly died first and Illa remarried a man named Zelenak-no date listed but story notes that she died before World War I because her daughter who was already in America returned to Slovakia to care for her mother and was unable to return to America because of the war.
- g. Surnames and variations to search: Fencsak/Fencak/Fenchak/Finch; Alzo; Bavolar; Ceyba; Ragan; Zelenak.
- h. First names and variations to search (Hungarian/Slovak/English): Mihaly /Michael/Mike; Illa/Ilona/Helen; Erzebet/Elizabeth; Jan/Janos/Jan; Mary; Anna.

3. Working Hypothesis: Mihaly Fencsak was born in Posa, Slovakia, married there and had two children. His first wife died and then he married Illa. Their first child was born in Liverpool, England, and then they arrived in America. While in Freeland, Pa., their daughter Anna was born, and then they eventually returned to Slovakia where their final two children, Elizabeth and Michael were born. Mihaly and Illa both died in Slovakia. Their three daughters eventually settled in America, and their son in Argentina. Mihaly's children from first wife: John settled in America; Anna stayed in Slovakia and married.

4. Identified Sources

- Family narrative
- 1910, 1920 and 1930 US Census records for Elizabeth Fenchak Alzo, Mary Fenchak Ceyba, Anna Fenchak Bavolar and John Fenchak
- Death certificates for Elizabeth Fenchak Alzo and her sisters Anna, Mary and her brother, John
- **Ellis Island database** for Port of New York passenger lists
- Other passenger lists for other ports as needed
- Port of departure lists (emigration) for Hamburg and Bremen, Germany (as available)
- Cemetery tombstones in Duquesne, Pa.
- Marriage records for Elizabeth and siblings in the United States
- Naturalization papers/declaration of intent for Elizabeth, Anna, Mary, John
- Search Social Security Death Index for all children of Mihaly Fenchak who settled in America. Write for SS-5 Applications.

(continued on Page 6)

Preserving the Integrity of Our Writing with Relevant, Consistent Citations
by Dawne Slater-Putt, CG(sm)*

"Cite your sources." It's something that, with luck, we learn to do early in our genealogical pursuits. We all know how difficult it can be to try to retrace our steps to determine just where we found a certain piece of information when we don't write down the book or website! Sometimes we need to go back and be sure that we wrote down the correct information, or to see if there is additional evidence that we missed, or maybe we can't read our own handwriting. Perhaps we need that citation so that we can use the information in an official lineage society or First Families application, or in an article that we are writing for a genealogical society publication.

One way to make citing sources easier in genealogical writing is to create a word processing file with a citation example for each of the sources that you use most often, such as census schedules, the World War I draft card database, the Social Security Death Index and so on. This will serve as your personal citation style sheet. Then you can cut and paste the examples into your documents and change the necessary elements. This ensures that you include all of the necessary information in your citations (no retracing steps to gather forgotten elements) and that your citations are consistent. To illustrate, two examples from my personal citation style sheet are:

Buckingham Cemetery (Buckingham Road east of Morey Road, Deemston Borough, Washington County, Pennsylvania), Henry Bane marker, photographed by Dawne Slater-Putt in April 1990.

Ancestry.com, Social Security Death Index [database online], (Provo, Utah: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011); Patricia J. Saxon entry, accessed 12 June 2012.

I can use the first example any time I have information from a cemetery that I have visited, pasting the example citation into my footnote or endnote and changing the cemetery name, location description, person whose marker is being discussed and the date I photographed it. This helps me be certain I have included all relevant information. The second example requires only that I change the name of the person whose entry is being cited and the date I accessed the database. At the very least, it saves me time in typing and frustration in trying to remember how I have cited this database previously.

Including consistent and relevant citations with our work helps to preserve its integrity by allowing us to retrace our steps and others to evaluate what we have written, thus helping to ensure that it will stand "the test of time."

*"CG" & "Certified Genealogist" are service marks of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, and are used by authorized associates following periodic, peer-reviewed competency evaluations. Certificate No. 386 awarded 4 July 1996; expires 4 July 2016.

Volusia County Genealogical Society, Inc. Founded 1976, is the oldest Genealogy Society in Volusia County. Meeting City Island Library Daytona Beach, 3rd. Thursday, monthly at 6pm. Sept—June

Mission: Encourage Society Members and the community to find their ancestors and connect with the past. Provide enlightening speakers at the monthly meetings on relative topics to aid, assist and better our research. Promote the use of and growth of our genealogy research room, develop our resources and

FGS Conference

by Kim E. Dolce

Cora May Hartzell and I spent a week in Fort Wayne, Indiana recently for the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) national conference. It was exhausting, but very informative and we both had a good time.

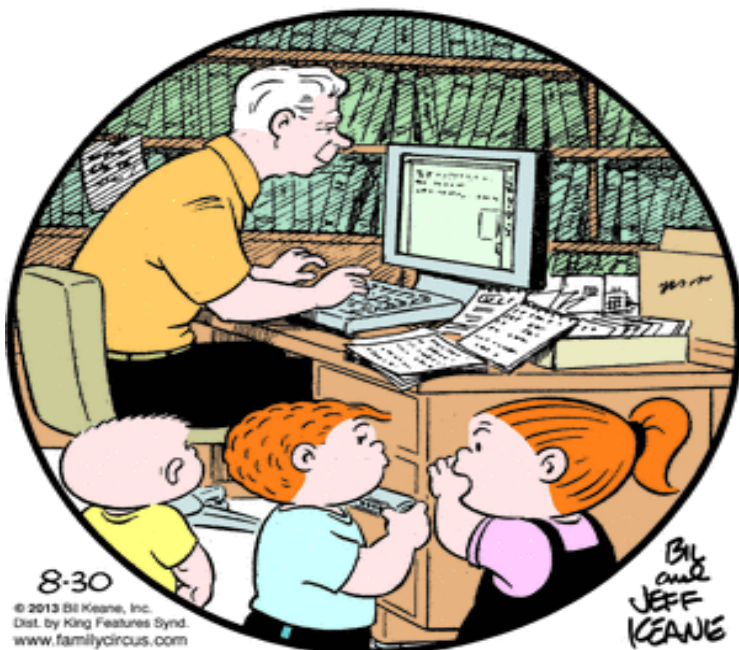
We arrived on Sunday evening, August 18th. Monday was a free day for us, so we spent most of it in the Allen County Public Library (ACPL), looking at the genealogy books. Since the genealogy collection is so big, they have a lot of books for areas other than the Midwest. I was amazed at the amount of books they had on New Jersey, and Cora May found a lot of information on her home area as well. The library itself is huge, and takes up a whole block.

Tuesday was Librarians Day. We were treated to a breakfast and attended some informative sessions by representatives of some large genealogy organizations. The highlight of the day was a tour of the ACPL Genealogy Center. We learned that there is 42,000 sq. ft. of public space in the Genealogy Center alone. There are books on just about every topic you can think of, including a lot of family histories. Curt Witcher, the head of the Genealogy Center, said that the staff doesn't verify the accuracy of family histories, and he knows of at least seven titles that claim to have the family traced back to Adam and Eve! In addition to the huge public collection, there is also a big archival area located in the basement. They have a collection of Abraham Lincoln memorabilia, including some photographs that had been owned by the family themselves. The library also has agreements with www.familysearch.org and www.archive.org. Both of those organizations use ACPL's space to scan some of ACPL's items and put them on their respective web sites. The day we visited, several people from FamilySearch were scanning materials. Someone else reviews it to make sure no pages are missing, and by the next day, it goes out on the web site. If you're looking for a particular document or book, it pays to check often since new things are being added daily.

Wednesday was Genealogy Societies Day. There were several breakout sessions with speakers on topics such as: administration, projects, publicity, etc.

On Thursday, the actual conference started with numerous breakout sessions on various aspects of genealogy. We attended sessions all day, every day through Saturday. In each time slot there were several sessions from which to choose: everything from methodology to technology. Cora May and I both attended a session called "Hometown Heaven." We learned that Brigham Young University is working on a project to digitize emigration records from the hometown side. So many US records list the country of origin, but not the specific town. Working from the European side allows the BYU students to scan original records. There is still a long way to go on this project, but it's certainly worth looking at now. The web site is: <http://immigrants.byu.edu/>.

I also attended sessions on Quakers, the military records site in St. Louis, academic library collections, and many more! It was definitely worth attending! I was able to get a lot of good information and some web sites as well, that I can share with you at a later date.



**"You better be quiet or Granddad
will leave you out of the family
history he's writing."**

The Sugar Mill Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will meet at the Port Orange Christian Church at 804 Taylor Rd., Port Orange at 7:00 p.m. on September 17, 2013. Michael A. Pyle, Attorney will be speaking on Spotting Scams.

The public is invited. Please call the Regent at 760-9921 for more information. Has your family been in this country since the 1700's? If so, you might be eligible to join the DAR. We will assist you in your research to track your heritage.

Sample Research Plan—(continued from Page 5)

[Family History Library](#) (FHL) microfilm of births, marriages and deaths in Posa, Slovakia, and 1869 Hungarian census returns for Zemplén County, Hungary

5. Research Strategy

- a. Check online [US Census](#) records (1910, 1920, 1930) for children of Mihaly and Illa Fenchak.
- b. Confirm naturalizations and confirm place of birth (1920, 1930 census); locate certificates and declarations of intent either in Pennsylvania or at the federal level using Freedom of Information Act request form.
- c. Search the online Ellis Island database, the [Castle Garden database](#) and the [Ancestry.com](#) US Immigration Collection for Anna, Mary, John and Elizabeth; also for Mihaly and Illa Fenchak.
- d. Search Social Security Death Index for all children of Mihaly Fenchak who settled in America; If so, request SS-5 Applications from the Social Security Administration.
- e. Check cemeteries in Duquesne, Pa., for tombstones and write for death records for Anna Bavolar, Mary Ceyba and John Fenchak.
- f. Contact or visit appropriate courthouses in Allegheny County, Pa., for marriage records.
- g. Find [birth records](#) for Anna (Pennsylvania), Mary (Liverpool, England) and Elizabeth, Michael and John (Slovakia).
- h. Search the [FHL catalog](#) for [microfilms](#) available for Posa, Slovakia. Order film numbers: 1793237, 1793238 and 1793239; and the 1869 Hungarian Census for Zemplén county film number 722769. Search films for all listings of the name "Fenscak."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS™



GENEALOGY ROADSHOW

– *New host, genealogy experts join production crew as season one begins filming this week in Austin* – ARLINGTON, VA; JUNE 21, 2013 – PBS announced today the host, on-air talent and filming locations for its new series **GENEALOGY ROADSHOW**, which premieres this fall. Part detective story, part emotional journey, the show combines history and science to uncover the fascinating and surprising stories of diverse Americans from across the country. The announcements come as **GENEALOGY ROADSHOW** begins production this weekend in Austin, Texas, the first of four U.S. cities it will visit.

On-Air Experts

Los Angeles-area broadcaster **Emmett Miller** has been named as the host of GENEALOGY ROADSHOW. As host, Miller introduces the show and each segment, guides viewers through the personal stories of the participants, and interacts with the participants throughout their journey.

ROADSHOW production company Krasnow Productions has also cast nationally known genealogical authors, lecturers and researchers **Joshua Taylor** and **Kenyatta Berry** as the show's on-air experts. Taylor and Berry will investigate participants' questions and then, in front of a live audience, reveal the intriguing and surprising information they discover about the participants, their families and their communities.

Locations

GENEALOGY ROADSHOW begins production this week in Austin, Texas, the first of four cities the series will visit in its premiere season. The shoot, which will capture six stories to be featured in the show, takes place June 23 at the historic The Driskill hotel. The entertaining mix of stories includes surprising connections to iconic figures in Texas and American history, debunked histories, and an emotional story of one man's amazing family.

Built in 1886 as the showplace of a cattle baron, The Driskill remains a landmark of legendary Texas hospitality and a symbol of the state's resilience and historic pride. Located on 6th Street in the heart of downtown Austin, the hotel was the site of many famous inaugural balls for Texas governors and was the first-date location for Lyndon Baines Johnson and his future wife Lady Bird. The Driskill maintains its original opulence, from the magnificent columned lobby with marble floors and a stained-glass dome to the classic décor of its 189 guestrooms and suites.

After Austin, the production team travels to Nashville June 29 to film segments at the Belmont Mansion, the largest house museum in Tennessee and one of the few 19th-century homes whose history revolves around the life of a woman: Adelia Hayes Franklin Acklen Cheatham.

GENEALOGY ROADSHOW then visits Detroit on July 14, and the first season's filming wraps up July 21 in San Francisco, at The Old Mint, an 1874 historic edifice that once was the most active mint in the United States, and that in the 1930s held one-third of the nation's gold reserves.

"The stories of everyday people, told in some of America's most extraordinary locations, will make GENEALOGY ROADSHOW the perfect destination for people who love history and real-life drama," said Beth Hoppe, Chief Programming Executive and General Manager of General Audience Programming for PBS. "GENEALOGY ROADSHOW is about anyone and everyone, proving that you don't have to be famous to be remarkable."

"Now that we're on the ground and preparing to film, we are thrilled with all the aspects of this production, from the enthusiastic response to our call for stories to the extraordinary historic locations where we're working, to the lively, fun and engaging on-air talent," said executive producer Stuart Krasnow.

GENEALOGY ROADSHOW's premiere season will feature participants who want to explore unverified genealogical claims, passed down through family history, which may (or may not) connect them to an event or a historical figure. Experts in genealogy, history and DNA use heirlooms, letters, pictures, historical documents and other clues to hunt down details. Producers enlist the help of local historians to add color and context to the investigations, ensuring every artifact and every name becomes a clue in solving the mystery. GENEALOGY ROADSHOW will air Mondays, September 23-October 14, 9:00-10:00 p.m. ET.

Entrance to Genealogy
Center—ACPL



Computer Area of Geneal-
ogy Center—ACPL

Reading/Research
Tables with Electri-
cal Outlets and Wi-
Fi in Genealogy
Center—ACPL

